

# With Authors and Books

## RECORD OF THE YEAR 1911.

The New International Year Book. A Compendium of the World's Progress for the Year 1911. Editor, Frank Moore Colby, M. A., Associate Editor, Allen Leon Churchill. Published by Dodd, Mead and Company, New York.

This year book for 1911, the fifth in the series that have appeared, is comprehensive on every question and on every activity throughout the world. It differs from other annual volumes at present published in the English language in being encyclopedic in range and method, and not confined to special fields or to a single country, but embracing all fields and the whole world. As the publishers say, "its purpose is to comprise in one annual volume all classes of information that are now scattered in many volumes, some exclusively statistical, others exclusively historical, biographical, political, or restricted to the United States or to the British Empire." And it aims also to comprise certain features not to be found in other annuals, as "an ample treatment of political events and political discussion in this country and abroad. In short, the aim has been, with the co-operation of some forty contributors, with upwards of 800 pages at their disposal, to produce what may be fairly termed, an encyclopedic year book for the year." As in preceding volumes, the text is written anew, instead of being carried forward from one year to another, which would involve the carrying of a lot of routine or permanent stuff which would make the text stale and unprofitable.

We have looked over this book with considerable care, and find it impossible to suggest anything by way of improvement, either in plan or in detail. The several States in the Union are noted in their yearly progress, and the United States as a whole, comes in its alphabetical order with thirty-two pages of excellently compiled data, including the official operations of the Nation, its agricultural and mineral production, census figures, Congressional apportionment, a list of Senators and Representatives from the various States, and a resume of the acts of the administration. Every important country in the world receives like full treatment, and this International Year Book is invaluable in the office or the library.

## A WIDOW'S PERPLEXITIES.

The Melting of Molly. By Maria Thompson Davies. Illustrated by R. M. Crosby. The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Publishers, Indianapolis.

The Molly of this story is the one who tells it. She is a fair and merry widow, but has lost her girlish form and has become decidedly plump, weighing 165 pounds on a height of but five feet three inches. And yet the illustrator does not seem to have caught on to the fact of her plumpness, for he draws her always of sylphlike proportions. Of course, Molly has many suitors, and there is an especial one who went away from her home town when she was but seventeen, and whom she thought she loved devotedly. The news comes that he is returning, and Molly is in despair, but resolved to dispense with her superfluous flesh. In the meantime, there is a friendly doctor next door, a widower who has a darling little boy, which is cared for by Molly, and this doctor gives her a fat-reducing regimen. With this situation, a very sympathetic and charming love story is created, and the reader is finely entertained in the telling. The author has given the public heretofore heart-touching books in "Miss Selina Goodwin for the year," "Miss Selina Goodwin for the year," and other stories that have had wide reading. The present one fully maintains the author's reputation as one who appeals directly to the humanity in us all.

## BOATING FOR BOYS.

Harper's Boating Book for Boys: A Guide to Motor Boating, Sailing, Canoeing, and Rowing. Consulting Editor, Charles G. Davis. Editorial Staff of "Motor Boat." With Many Original Illustrations. Harper & Brothers, Publishers, New York.

This book treats fully and fairly of water craft, from the Indian canoe to the modern motor boat. It is a book, therefore, of the past, of the present, and of the future, although the past is used only illustratively and as the foundation of beginnings. The book is written and illustrated on the plan of Harper's Practical Books, which

is to explain how to do things one's self. The subject of boating is introduced by instructions, how to make motor boats and other craft for pleasure and for experiment, and then how to make boats for actual use. From boat building the writer advances to boat sailing, an art which is explained in its manifold practical operations; the choice of a boat, its outfit and care, management, sails, different types and rigging. There is "First Aid to Boatmen," "How to Make Play Boats," "How to Make Real Boats," "Sail Boats and Sailing," "Motor Boats and Motor-Boating," "Canoes and Canoeing," and "Rowing." Each of these different parts has subdivisions, with numerous chapters explaining the different topics as treated. The illustrations are very many, and reach from the full-page plate to the miniature of parts, and to knots. It is a first-class book, the best in its line.

## IN SUNNY SOUTH FRANCE.

From the South of France. Stories by Thomas A. Janvier. Illustrated. Harper & Brothers, Publishers, New York.

We have here five short stories by an author who is irresistibly humorous when he wishes to be, and quite historical and accurate when that is the proper thing. These stories from the South of France embrace "The Roses of Provence," "The Poodle of Monsieur Gaillard," "The Recurrence of Madame Vie," "Madame Joulie's Cat," and "A Consolate Giantess." Mr. Janvier has charmed the public heretofore with his stories, "The Aztec Treasure House," "The Sargasso Sea," "Santa Fe's Partner," "The Dutch Founding of New York," "The Uncle of an Angel," "The Christmas Kalendar of Provence," the story of "Henry Hudson," and other good literature. These stories from the South of France are full of the flavor of French humor, with many French turns of thought and expression, and they are vastly entertaining. It is a book sure to interest, amuse, and charm, and the reader is well repaid who peruses it.

## CALLS FOR BETTER BANKING.

Banking Reform. Edited by J. Laurence Laughlin, Professor of Political Economy, University of Chicago. The National Citizens' League for the Promotion of a Sound Banking System, Publishers, Chicago.

This is a pretty thorough-going, positive discussion of the general banking and financial system of the country, from the uncompromising standpoint. Naturally, the immediate interest in the volume would be the attitude which it assumes towards the Aldrich currency plan. We are somewhat surprised to find that Professor Laughlin is inclined to view the Aldrich proposition with a favorable although he concedes that in matters of detail, some improvements might easily be made. Professor Laughlin discusses his theme in twenty-three chapters, whose titles are as follows: "The National Banking System," "A Co-operative Banking System," "Present Reserve Requirements," "Our Inelastic Credit System," "Commercial Paper," "Acceptances and a Discount Market," "Speculation and Call Loans," "The Inelasticity of Note Issues," "Inflation and Over-Expansion," "Bond-Secured and Unsecured Currency," "The Clearing-House System," "Co-operation or Centralization?" "Control of the Reserve Association," "Small Banks and the National Reserve Association," "State Banks and Trust Companies," "The Non-Borrower's Interest in Banking," "The Small Merchant," "The Farmer and the Bank," "Movement of Cotton," "The Depositor," "The Reserve Association as Fiscal Agent of the Federal Government," "International Position of the United States," and "Constitutionality of a National Reserve Association." The whole is completed with an appendix, explaining the National Citizens' League, and a comprehensive index. The volume is well worth reading by those who wish to keep informed upon currency and financial questions and the discussion concerning them.

## CHOSEN AMERICANS.

Who's Who in America: a Biographical Dictionary of Notable Living Men and Women of the United States. Volume VII—1912-1913. Edited by Albert Nelson Marquis. Founded, 1899. Revised and Reissued Biennially. Published by A. N. Marquis & Company, Chicago.

This American "Who's Who" is famous for its all-embracing character and its full yet concise biographies of living persons whose work and activities are of such general character as to entitle them to representation in the work. The present volume embraces 2363 pages of the regular list, and there is a biographical index, grouping by States and postoffice addresses, all personages of the book, making it easy to find the names for any particular section or locality. There are full indexes also, and the volume as a whole is about the most useful publication that can be supplied to any newspaper or other office, or to any library. With this as the key, the whole public life of the United States is at once available for work. It is an invaluable publication. It tells just the things every intelligent person wants to know about those who are most conspicuous in every walk of life, including the leading business men of the country.

The captains of industry, trade and commerce; The notable financiers; The creators of great industrial enterprises; The promoters of powerful commercial combinations; The men and women who are making the history of the Nation, and its States and municipalities; Who are creating American literature, educating the youth of the country, in religious, scientific, social, military, naval, and artistic activities; All members of Congress; All Governors of States, Territories, and Island Possessions of the United States; All United States Judges; All Judges of State and Territorial courts of highest appellate jurisdiction; Members of the cabinet; Federal department heads; All officers of the army above the rank of colonel, and of the navy above the rank of captain; All American ambassadors and ministers plenipotentiary; Heads of all the larger universities and colleges; Members of the National Academy of Sciences, and of the National Academy of Design; Heads of the leading national societies devoted to educational and scientific aims; Bishops and chief ecclesiastics of all the larger religious denominations; and all who are in the innumerable departments of useful and creditable effort most representative of American progress. This new edition, for 1912-1913, has been thoroughly revised and brought down to date, and 292 new sketches have been added since the previous edition was published. There are 18,794 biographies in the

book, and 8091 cross-references to earlier editions, making available for easy reference nearly 27,000 personal sketches.

The latest address is appended to each sketch as usual. This book is absolutely indispensable to every person who makes any attempt to keep abreast of the times.

## THE AUTHORIZED VERSION.

The Greatest English Classic: a Study of the King James Version of the Bible, and its Influence on Life and Literature. By Cleland Boyd McAfee, D. D. Published by Harper & Brothers, New York.

This is a fine volume, the work of a ripe scholar and ready, forcible writer. The book is composed of six lectures, prepared at the request of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, and delivered in the early part of the present year under its auspices. They were suggested by the tercentenary of the King James version of the Bible. The plan adopted led to a restatement of the history which prepared for the version and for that which produced it. Then the author relates out its principal characteristics as a piece of literature. Two lectures follow that, noting its influence on literature and on history. The course closes with a statement and argument regarding the place of the Bible in the life of today. Mention is made of other translations and versions, and the versions and authorities relied on by the translators and sponsors for the King James version are noted and described.

There can be no question about the primacy of the King James version of the Bible as the greatest English classic. It was prepared by great scholars, men of broad minds, liberal culture, and earnest devotion. It is everything that its most earnest supporters have claimed for it, and it is even more. It is the great, triumphant example of the beauty, power, and comprehensiveness of the English tongue.

The narration by the author of the various steps taken in the preparation of this great version is of the deepest interest, and no one can read the same without admiring the method, the work, and the results. Dr. McAfee has done the public a distinguished service in presenting this very fine and instructive volume.

## EXPERT CHICKEN LORE.

Profitable Breeds of Poultry. By Arthur S. Wheeler. The Outing Publishing Company, New York.

In this little volume the author discusses expertly and well the different breeds of poultry, giving all-round preference to the barred Plymouth Rocks. He discusses also the Wyandotte, the Orpington, the Rhode Island Red, the Dorking, and the Cornish. There is a preliminary chapter on "Stock—Good and Bad," and the final chapter treats of "Housing and Management." It is all excellently done, the author clearly being an expert on chickens.

## LITERARY NOTES.

The growing importance of aviation and the problems which it raises are shown in an article on "The Command of the Air," which The Living Age for May 18 reprints from The National Review.

Floyd Dell in a page review in "The Chicago Evening Post" of Miss Addams' "A New Conscience and an Ancient Evil," calls attention to the fact that this latest book supplements the two volumes, "Spirit of Youth and the City Streets," "Where the latter, he says, gives a dazzling insight into the fundamental trouble of our present stage of civilization, and goes on with the story. "It is a tale of the spirit of youth and the rest of the city—the factories, the stores, the dance halls, the theaters, Miss Addams shows that in the spirit of youth is the danger and the promise of the world."

An article on "The Crisis in London Journalism," which The Living Age for May 18 reprints from The English Review, makes a starting exhibit of the inroads which sensationalism has made upon former newspaper standards.

A new edition of Luke Vincent Lockwood's standard work on Colonial Furniture, called "Colonial Furniture in America," will be published in the fall. It will be virtually a new work—two volumes instead of one having in the neighborhood of 1000 illustrations instead of 200, and treating many new topics and the old ones in a far more detailed and thorough manner than was possible in the earlier volume.

An appreciation and sketch of Robert Louis Stevenson which Neil Munro contributed to the London Bookman will delight American lovers of Stevenson who will find it in The Living Age for May 18.

The fourth edition of Professor Edward A. Ross's book, "The Changing China," is on the press. The New York Herald, published in Shanghai, said, in a recent review of this book: "Dr. Ross, of course, visited China prior to the present revolution and could not possibly be aware that his prediction in regard to the probable future of China stood a very good chance of not remote fulfillment. For, if the present turn of events means anything, it would certainly appear to mean all, and even more than all, that the old China is being so graphically described in his book."

Archibald Hurd, who is one of the most eminent authorities upon naval questions, is the author of an important article on "The New Naval Crisis and the German Dominions," which The Living Age for May 18 reprints from The Fortnightly Review.

"Of all modern novelists," Gertrude Atherton most closely resembles George Eliot, in the general style of her writing. This comparison, a type of the many which are put forth upon the publication of really notable fiction, is advanced by Mrs. Alberta Lawrence, a Western literary critic. Mrs. Lawrence then gives her reasons for her statement and follows with a two-column review of the story itself. "The book [Julia Francis] is worth going into as minutely as I have done," she concludes, "and more worth reading. It is one of the very best of the spring books in the line of fiction."

Is there anything in all this world that is of more importance to you than good digestion? Food must be eaten to sustain life and must be digested and converted into blood. When the digestion fails the whole body suffers. Chamberlain's Tablets are a rational and reliable cure for indigestion. They increase the flow of bile, purify the blood, strengthen the stomach, and tone up the whole digestive apparatus to a natural and healthy action. For sale by all dealers.

## Porto Rico's New Wonder.

From far away Porto Rico come reports of a wonderful new discovery that is believed will vastly benefit the people. Ramon T. Marchan of Barceloneta writes: "Dr. King's New Discovery is doing splendid work here. It cured me about five times of terrible coughs and colds, also my brother of a severe cold in his chest and more than twenty who used it on my advice. We hope this great medicine will be sold in every drug store in Porto Rico." For throat and lung troubles it has no equal. A trial will convince you of its merit. 50¢ and \$1.00. Trial bottle free. Guaranteed by Schramm-Johnson, Drugs, 5 Stores.

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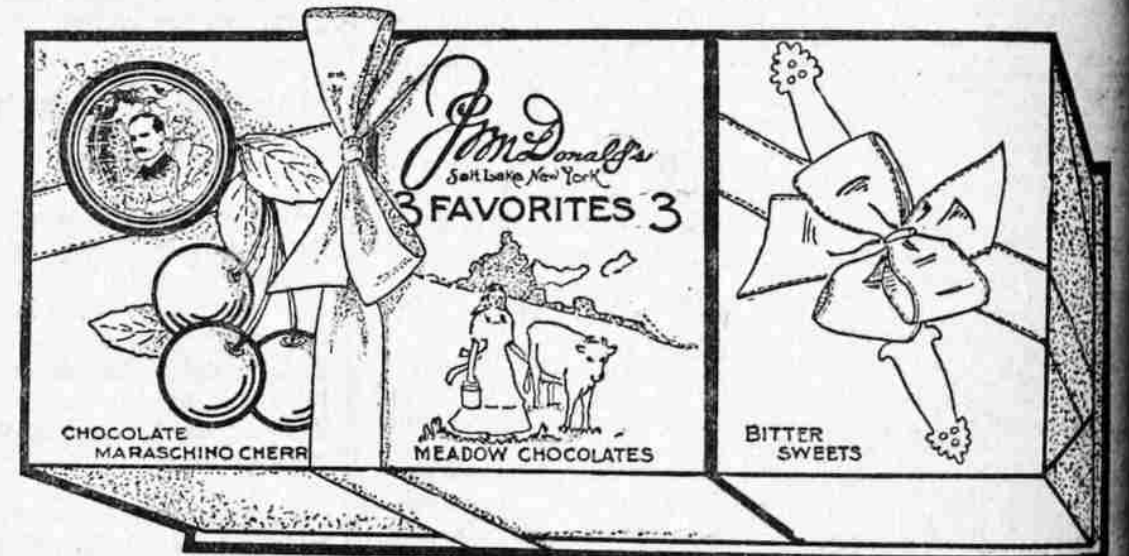
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tion of this kind called Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Hair Remedy in which Sage and Sulphur are combined with other valuable remedies for keeping the hair and scalp in clean healthy condition.

If your hair is losing its color or constantly coming out or if you are troubled with dandruff or dry itchy scalp get a fifty-cent bottle of Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur from your druggist, use it according to the simple directions, and see what a difference a few days' treatment will make in the appearance of your hair.

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